

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-10

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ARA - MR. LUERS

NSC - MR. LOW (IN SUBSTANCE)

S/S - MR. ORTIZ

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR CO

SUBJECT: DRAFT COMMUNIQUE FOR LOPEZ STATE VISIT

1. WE ARE AWARE FROM YOUR REPORTS OF LIKELY GOC REQUEST FOR JOINT COMMUNIQUE AT CONCLUSION OF LOPEZ STATE VISIT. WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR VIEWS AND COMMENTS ON FOLLOWING TENTATIVE DRAFT TEXT FOR SUCH A COMMUNIQUE.

2. QUOTE: THE STATE VISIT OF PRESIDENT AND MRS. LOPEZ OF COLOMBIA. THE STATE VISIT OF PRESIDENT AND MRS. ALFONSO LOPEZ MICHELSEN PROVIDED AN OPPORTUNITY FOR SERIOUS DISCUSSION AND EXCHANGE OF VIEWS WITH RESPECT TO INTERNATIONAL, REGIONAL AND BILATERAL TOPICS OF INTEREST.

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ACCOMPANYING THE PRESIDENT DURING THE SEPTEMBER 25-26 VISIT TO WASHINGTON WERE MINISTER OF FINANCE RODRIGO BOTERO, MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE RAFAEL PARDO, MINISTER OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT JORGE RAMIREZ, MINISTER OF PUBLIC

WORKS HUMBERTO SALCEDO, THE MAYORS OF BOGOTA AND CALI, AND THE PRESIDENT'S TWO SONS, FELIPE AND ALFONSO LOPEZ. SEVERAL OF THESE OFFICIALS WERE ACCOMPANIED BY THEIR WIVES. FOR SOME OF THEM, THE VISIT PROVIDED AN OPPORTUNITY TO MEET WITH THEIR UNITED STATES COUNTERPARTS FOR DISCUSSION OF PROBLEMS OF MUTUAL INTEREST. COLOMBIAN AMBASSADOR AND

MRS. JULIO CESAR TURBAY AYALA WERE ALSO MEMBERS OF THE OFFICIAL PARTY.

PRESIDENT LOPEZ, IN HIS CONVERSATIONS WITH PRESIDENT FORD, VICE PRESIDENT ROCKEFELLER, AND SECRETARY OF STATE KISSINGER EXAMINED WORLD ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL ISSUES IN DETAIL. THEY DISCUSSED PROSPECTS FOR IMPROVED INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION IN LIGHT OF THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE SEVENTH SPECIAL SESSION OF THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY. THEY DISCUSSED THE SPECIAL PROBLEMS FACED BY COLOMBIA AND OTHER DEVELOPING COUNTRIES IN THE HEMISPHERE, WHICH, BECAUSE THEY ARE IN A MORE ADVANCED STAGE OF DEVELOPMENT AND ARE INTEGRATED INTO THE WORLD ECONOMY, ARE ALSO GREATLY AFFECTED BY CHANGES IN THE INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC CONDITIONS. THEY AGREED TO CONSULT FURTHER AS THE INITIATIVES STEMMING FROM THE SEVENTH SPECIAL SESSION UNFOLD.

THE PRESIDENTS ALSO REVIEWED GLOBAL PROBLEMS OF SECURITY AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR PEACE.

WESTERN HEMISPHERE ISSUES WERE EXAMINED IN DEPTH AND WITH EQUAL FRANKNESS. PRESIDENT LOPEZ EXPLAINED TO PRESIDENT FORD THE POSITION OF COLOMBIA ON A NUMBER OF POINTS. HE EMPHASIZED HIS INTEREST AND THAT OF LATIN AMERICA IN GENERAL IN A FAVORABLE OUTCOME TO THE PRESENT PANAMA CANAL NEGOTIATIONS. PRESIDENT FORD, IN TURN, CONFIRMED US RECOGNITION OF THE VALIDITY OF COLOMBIA'S RIGHTS IN THE CANAL UNDER THE URRUTIA-THOMSON TREATY.
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PRESIDENT FORD EXPRESSED DETERMINATION TO CONSULT WITH COLOMBIA AT AN APPROPRIATE POINT IN THE NEGOTIATING PROCESS REGARDING THE FUTURE STATUS OF THOSE RIGHTS.

THE TWO PRESIDENTS AND THEIR ADVISORS ALSO DISCUSSED THE UNITED STATES TRADE REFORM ACT OF 1974, NOTED THAT TECHNICAL DISCUSSIONS WERE RECENTLY HELD ON THE ACT IN WASHINGTON, AND ANTICIPATED FURTHER CONVERSATIONS WITH REGARD TO THE IMPLICATIONS OF THE ACT FOR COLOMBIA AND FOR LATIN AMERICA IN GENERAL. PRESIDENT LOPEZ STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE TO LATIN AMERICA OF GREATER ACCESS TO THE UNITED STATES MARKET.

WITH REGARD TO RATIFICATION OF THE QUITA SUENO TREATY, THE TWO PRESIDENTS NOTED THAT THE US SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE HAS JUST HELD PUBLIC HEARINGS, AND PRESIDENT FORD ASSURED HIS VISITOR OF CONTINUING ADMINISTRATION SUPPORT FOR EARLY RATIFICATION.

MULTILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS LOOKING TOWARD AN INTERNATIONAL COFFEE AGREEMENT WERE DISCUSSED BY THE TWO PRESIDENTS AND THEY AGREED AS TO THE IMPORTANCE OF CONTINUING EFFORTS IN THIS DIRECTION.

THE AID PROGRAM OF BILATERAL ASSISTANCE TO COLOMBIA WAS ALSO DISCUSSED. ITS ACHIEVEMENTS OVER PRIOR YEARS WERE NOTED, AND PRESIDENT LOPEZ MADE KNOWN HIS BELIEF THAT AS COLOMBIA HAD BECOME LESS DEPENDENT ON EXTERNAL FINANCING, THE AID BILATERAL PROGRAM COULD NOW BE BROUGHT TO AN ORDERLY CLOSE. AGREEMENT WAS REACHED TO WORK OUT A TERMINATION PLAN FOR AID ASSISTANCE ALTHOUGH WITH APPROPRIATE PROVISION FOR FUTURE FACILITATION TO COLOMBIA OF SUCH ASPECTS OF US TECHNOLOGY AS MAY BE USEFUL.

THE VISIT PROVIDED AN OPPORTUNITY FOR REVIEW OF THE STATUS OF COMPLETION OF THE INTER-AMERICAN HIGHWAY THROUGH CONSTRUCTION OF THE DARIEN GAP SEGMENT. PROGRESS TOWARD RELATED CONTROL OF HOOF AND MOUTH DISEASE IN NORTHERN COLOMBIA WAS EXAMINED, AND ATTENDANT PROBLEMS WERE REVIEWED.

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INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL WAS ALSO DISCUSSED, WITH BOTH PRESIDENTS EMPHASIZING THEIR RECOGNITION OF THE MENACE POSED BY INTERNATIONAL TRAFFICKING. THE LEADERS OF BOTH COUNTRIES COMMITTED THEMSELVES TO REINFORCED JOINT EFFORT TO COMBAT AND ERADICATE THIS EVIL.

PRESIDENT LOPEZ AND PRESIDENT FORD ALSO DISCUSSED THE POSSIBLE REESTABLISHMENT OF A UNITED STATES CONSULATE AT BARRANQUILLA ON THE NORTH COAST OF COLOMBIA. PRESIDENT FORD STATED THAT FUNDS HAVE BEEN REQUESTED FOR THIS PURPOSE AND THAT HE WILL PURSUE THE MATTER AS NECESSARY WITH THE CONGRESS.

IN CONCLUSION, THE TWO CHIEFS OF STATE AND THEIR ADVISORS NOTED THE INCREASING DEGREE OF INTERDEPENDENCE WHICH CHARACTERIZES OUR MODERN WORLD AND AGREED THAT COLOMBIA AND THE UNITED STATES --- TWO DEMOCRATIC NATIONS WHICH SHARE MANY VALUES AND GOALS --- SHOULD SEEK MEANS OF EVER GREATER COOPERATION ON THE BILATERAL, REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL PLANES. UNQUOTE. KISSINGER

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